

METHOD OF SIMULTANEOUSLY ENHANCING ANALGESIC  
POTENCY AND ATTENUATING DEPENDENCE LIABILITY CAUSED  
BY MORPHINE AND OTHER BIMODALLY-ACTING OPIOID AGONISTS

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Abstract of the Disclosure

This invention relates to a method for selectively enhancing the analgesic potency of a bimodally-acting opioid agonist such as morphine and simultaneously attenuating anti-analgesia, hyperalgesia, hyperexcitability, physical dependence and/or tolerance effects associated with the administration of the bimodally-acting opioid agonist. The method of the present invention comprises administering to a subject an analgesic or sub-analgesic amount of a bimodally-acting opioid agonist such as morphine and an amount of an excitatory opioid receptor antagonist such as naltrexone or naloxone effective to enhance the analgesic potency of the bimodally-acting opioid agonist and attenuate the anti-analgesia, hyperalgesia, hyperexcitability, physical dependence and/or tolerance effects of the bimodally-acting opioid agonist.

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